

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 and 38-50 were pending. Claims 1-20 have been cancelled, without prejudice, to place the application in condition for allowance. The Examiner previously indicated that claims 40-44 and 46-50 are allowed. The rejection of claims 38-39 and 45 are addressed below in the Interview Summary.

INTERVIEW SUMMARY

On February 2, 2005, the undersigned (Heath W. Hoglund), the inventor (Dr. Jose Zayas) and the Examiner (Kevin E. Weddington) conducted a telephone interview. First, the rejection of claim 1 on the grounds of indefiniteness was discussed. It was noted that this rejection had been previously made by the Examiner and traversed by the inventor. The participants did not reach an agreement as to the rejection of these claims.

Second, the rejection of claim 38 was discussed. It was noted that a similar rejection had been previously made by the Examiner and traversed by the inventor. The claim expressly recites a composition of "perillyl aldehyde [which] is sufficient to inhibit the growth of fungi and bacteria." The reference relied upon the Examiner teaches the use of this compound as a fungicide. The participants agreed that this distinguished this claim from the prior art. The participants

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agreed that this claim stands in conditions for allowance. Dependent claim 39 is, therefore, also allowable. And, claim 45 would be allowable for the same reason.

The participants agreed that cancellation of claims 1-20 would place the application in condition for allowance. Pursuant to this agreement, these claims have been cancelled above.

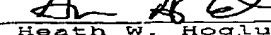
Finally, the inventor had obtained a more recent version of the reference relied upon by the Examiner which was authored by Kurita, et al. A supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being filed herewith for the Examiner's consideration.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully submitted that the above amendments now place the application in condition for allowance. The Examiner's further consideration and favorable action are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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